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# Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

June 28, 1957

To the Faculty, Committee Members and  
others associated with the Graduate School:

Some 500 people are taking part in our summer school program. These include students and the instructors in 29 classes. Enrollment is up about 8 per cent over last year. For most students and teachers, a class in summer school means one evening a week in the Department of Agriculture. But students and teachers in 10 of the courses have classes scheduled two evenings each week from now until August 16.

We were pleased to see the value of good programming and advertising confirmed by student interest in four new courses in the Department of Languages and Literature. These were given special attention in the announcement of the summer schedule and in addition, we prepared special bulletins on them for distribution to training officers and others who might publicize them. Each of the courses attracted enough students to satisfy our requirements for forming a class. The courses are on: great books - Significant Books of the Twentieth Century; information methods - Using Visuals Effectively; library techniques - Cataloging and Classification II; and a general language course - The World's Main Languages.

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Ordinarily, when we have news about members of our staff, the story concerns a change. A new employee is being added or someone is leaving the staff for a new job. This time, we have news about the staff members who give continuity to our program--those who stay on the job.

For instance, Ruth King Carlock, administrative officer, recently celebrated her 12th year with the Graduate School by spending a holiday in Europe. Mrs. Carlock, who is well known to most of you as the one who arranges for classroom space and disburses pay checks, is in charge of our records and manages the office.

Mrs. Carlock's introduction to the Graduate School would have discouraged anyone who had an aversion to working under pressure. A newcomer to Washington and an employee of the War Production Board, she came to the Graduate School in September 1944 to enroll for a course. The office was crowded with students and there were long lines of people moving through the registration process. By the time Mrs. Carlock reached the Registrar--Barbara Perecinic Burrow held the job then--she had decided she would like to work here and she asked Mrs. Burrow to keep her in mind for future openings.

Mrs. Burrow was impressed by her credentials--an A.B. from the University of Illinois, experience as a principal of a grade school in Hammond, Illinois, and as a teacher in a high school in Normal, Illinois, and a business college in Urbana, Illinois. Within a month, there was a vacancy here and Mrs. Carlock took a reduction in salary to accept it. She has done a fine job through the years.

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A letter addressed to "Tall, Slim Brunette" in care of the Graduate School was delivered to Vera Jensen, early this month. It was from Lewis H. Rohrbaugh, former director of the Graduate School, now vice president and provost of the University of Arkansas.

"I'm not sure the envelope is addressed in the 'Federal' way," he wrote. "Anyway, I think the Journal's treatment of the Graduate School was a good and sympathetic one. Best to you all."

Dr. Rohrbaugh referred to a 2,000 word, front page feature on the Graduate School that appeared in the WALL STREET JOURNAL, May 29. James N. Wallace, the reporter, described Miss Jensen as "a tall, slim brunette, who publicizes the school, directs its library, and for an hour a day, sells textbooks and supplies from a cluttered one room bookstore."

He might have added that she joined our staff in 1947. She is a graduate of Wisconsin Teachers College and formerly taught handicapped children in the public schools of Racine and Marshfield, Wisconsin.

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In case you missed the editorial, "Enriching Public Service," in the WASHINGTON POST, May 10, here are quotations of interest.

"One simple way of improving the quality and morale of the Federal Civil Service would be to encourage trained Government workers to extend their skills by going back to school for advanced education relevant to their work....Private industry has long recognized the merits of refresher courses, special institutes, and advanced school for executives. But the Federal public service has badly lagged in this respect.

"A bill sponsored by Senators Johnston and Neuberger, which would go a long way toward meeting the need, has been passed by the Senate; a similar measure introduced by Rep. Reese of Kansas is now before the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.



"Section 8 of the Senate bill would give the President authority to make arrangements for sharing the cost of advanced education between the Government and nonprofit foundations. In the past it has been held that a recipient of a Rockefeller Public Service Award (for example) could not continue drawing a Federal salary without running athwart of the conflict of interest statutes. Adoption of the Senate provision would remove a far-fetched conflict of interest restriction and enable a pooling of resources to the advantage of the public service. Congress ought to bring the Civil Service abreast of the time by providing for more advanced training and it ought to enrich the possibilities of the training bill by incorporating this Senate provision."

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To My Friends in the Graduate School:

It is not easy to leave a position that I have enjoyed so much for so many years. Since I came to the Graduate School in the fall of 1951, I have made hundreds of friends among our teachers and committee members and, in that time, I came to have a very deep respect for the ability and ideals of all of you who have chosen this way of contributing to the quality of the Federal service. You have made the Graduate School a powerful force in the Government.

Although I shall leave my office about the first of August, I will continue to have a number of connections with the Graduate School and the United States Department of Agriculture and in the course of what I hope will be many visits here, I shall hope to have opportunities for renewing my acquaintance with all of you.

With my best wishes and my thanks for your constant cooperation and innumerable courtesies.

O. B. Conaway, Jr.  
Assistant Director

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We were privileged to attend the ceremony, June 11, at which Mrs. Virginia B. Roser, a Graduate School teacher since 1950, received the Order of the Southern Cross, in the rank of Chevalier from His Excellency Amaral Peisoto, Ambassador from Brazil to the United States. Mrs. Roser was cited for "her outstanding services as a teacher and for her efforts on behalf of the dissemination of information on Brazilian culture, as an element toward the achievement of a closer understanding between the two peoples.

"For over fifteen years, Mrs. Roser has been teaching English to many Brazilian personalities who have served in Washington. Her ability and kindness captivated the hearts of those who have known her. This award represents, therefore, not only an official recognition of her services but also a very special token of appreciation from her present and former pupils."

Mrs. Roser shared honors on the occasion with General Randolph Pate, who received decorations of the Order of the Naval Cross, in the rank of Grand Officer.

Our congratulations to Harry L. Burnett for winning a scholarship to study at the Winona School of Photography, Winona Lake, Indiana, this summer. The School, sponsored by The Photographers' Association of America, offers refresher courses for professional photographers.

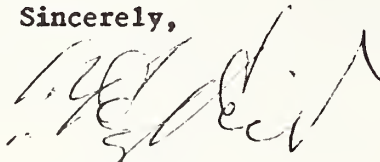
Harold B. Simpson, who organized our course in Editing Technical Manuscripts, has accepted a position as technical editor of the Bendix Systems Division in Ann Arbor and plans to complete work on his doctorate at the University of Michigan.

Charles L. Grant, who succeeded Joseph Wheeler as director of the Office of Budget and Finance in Agriculture, has agreed to teach the course, Budgetary and Financial Administration, formerly given by Mr. Wheeler. As many of you know by now, Joe Wheeler has been named administrative officer for the U. S. Information Agency in Rome.

Another member of our faculty whose work is transferring him out of the Washington area is Ernest J. Parkin, who since 1950 has taught the courses in surveying. Headquarters for his new job with the Air Force are in Orlando, Florida. His successor in the Graduate School is Cecil F. Ellingwood, a geodetic engineer with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Possibly you saw the story in the NEW YORK TIMES, May 20, of the appointment of Harry Bitner as librarian for the Yale Law School. Mr. Bitner, who has taught Law Librarianship in the Graduate School for the past two years tells us that he has had a most rewarding experience teaching here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'T. Roy Reid', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

T. Roy Reid  
Director